

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/073,903

Examiner

Marc R. Filipczyk

Applicant(s)

KOIZUMI ET AL.

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/27/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7-14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

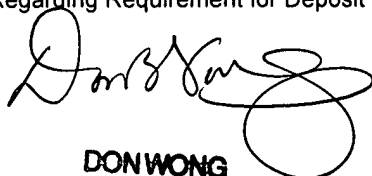
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 5/12/06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



DON WONG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Response to Amendment

This action is responsive to Applicant's response filed on February 27, 2006 wherein claims 6-14 are pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Mattingly on May 12, 2006.

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace old abstract with this new abstract below.

ABSTRACT

An interpretation service for voice based on sentence template retrieval allows a translation database to be customized without burdening users and enables sentences needed by users to be accurately interpreted. A sentence to be stored in a translation database for customization can be described as a sentence template including a slot which allows words to be replaced. A condition for selecting sentence templates is extracted from a registered user profile (UP). A sentence template matching the condition is retrieved from those stored in the translation database for customization and is registered in a translation database customized for each user. A

Art Unit: 2163

word extracted from the UP is inserted into the sentence template's slot for registration to a sentence dictionary customized for each user.

AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

7. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of customizing a dictionary used for speech recognition, comprising the steps of:

extracting user-specific vocabulary from a set of registered user profile information; and
generating a new customized sentence by inserting at least one word in said user-specific vocabulary into a slot of a sentence template stored in a translation database and storing said customized sentence into said dictionary, wherein said customized sentence stored in said dictionary is used for recognizing speech input by a user that is converted into voice data and collated with said customized sentence.

10. (Currently Amended) A storage media readable by a computer for storing a customizing program for customizing a dictionary used for speech recognition, said customizing program enabling the computer to perform the steps of:

extracting user-specific vocabulary from a set of registered user profile information; and
generating a new customized sentence by inserting at least one word in said user-specific vocabulary in a slot of a sentence template stored in a translation database and storing said customized sentence into said dictionary, wherein said customized sentence stored in said dictionary is used for recognizing speech input by a user that is converted into voice data and collated with said customized sentence.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-14 are allowable over the prior art of record, renumbered as claims 1-8, respectively.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 7 and 10 are allowable because the prior art of record or that encountered in searching for the invention, fails to disclose or suggest a dictionary used for speech recognition by generating a new sentence and inserting a word from a user profile information into a slot of a sentence template stored in a translation database and storing said customized sentence into said dictionary, wherein said customized sentence stored in said dictionary is used for recognizing speech input by a user that is collated with said customized sentence, as claimed in addition to the other claim provisions.

Claims 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 14 depend from claims 7 and 10 respectively, and are therefore allowable on the merits.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following prior art show the state of art with respect to speech recognition systems:

U.S. Patent No. 6,917,920 of Koizumi et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,944,817 of Danneels

U.S. Patent No. 6,961,722 of Bruecken

Art Unit: 2163

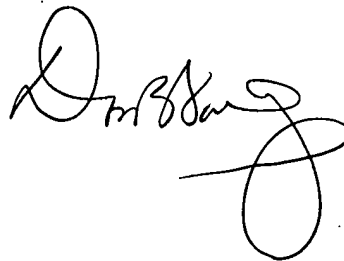
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc R. Filipczyk whose telephone number is (571) 272-4019. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MF
May 12, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Wong", with a large, stylized loop at the end.